

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 17577 030406Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-05 TRSE-00
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-13 /073 W
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R 021722Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3468
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MBABANE

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USEEC

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, EEC, XA
SUBJECT: ACP COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, 14TH SESSION, LUSAKA,
DECEMBER 8-9

1. UNDER THE TERMS OF THE LOME CONVENTION, THE AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC (ACP) STATES ADHERING TO THE CONVENTION CONVENE ANNUALLY AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL TO TAKE STOCK OF PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE AGREEMENT AND TO REVIEW CURRENT STATUS OF EC-ACP RELATIONS. MISSION IS INFORMED THAT NEXT SUCH ACP COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING WILL BE HELD IN LUSAKA, DECEMBER 8-9. REPRESENTATIVES OF 52 INDEPENDENT STATES CURRENTLY SIGNATORIES TO THE CONVENTION ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND.

2. DURING A CONVERSATION NOVEMBER 28 WITH A REPRESENTATIVE OF ACP SECRETARIAT IN BRUSSELS, MISSION OFFICER DISCUSSED PROPOSED AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 8-9
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MEETING. PRINCIPAL TASK OF COUNCIL WILL BE TO REVIEW REPORT OF ACP COMMITTEE OF AMBASSADORS. THIS IS A ROUTINE AGENDA ITEM, GIVING MINISTERS OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS SUBJECTS OF TOPICAL INTEREST UNDER LOME, AND TO REACH DECISIONS REGARDING INTERNAL FUNCTIONING OF ACP INSTITUTIONS, STATUS OF EC/ACP RELATIONS, AND EVOLUTION OF INTRA-ACP COORDINATION. ACCORDING TO

DRAFT AGENDA, ACP REPRESENTATIVES WILL ALSO: (A) EXAMINE INTERNAL ACP BUDGETARY AND OTHER HOUSEKEEPING MATTERS; (B) REVIEW REPORTS ON ACP EXPORTS TO EC OF SPECIFIC PRODUCTS, INCLUDING BANANAS, SUGAR, TEXTILES, AND POSSIBLY BEEF; AND (C) CONSIDER RESULTS OF JOINT EC/ACP PARLIAMENTARY GROUP MEETINGS HELD IN LUXEMBOURG (JUNE) AND LESOTHO (NOVEMBER 28-DECEMBER 1).

3. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST, IN ADDITION TO FOREGOING, IS THAT COUNCIL WILL EXAMINE A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON A NEGOTIATING STRATEGY FOR THE RENEWAL OF LOME CONVENTION TO BEGIN NEXT YEAR. (THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS DISCUSSION IS TO PROVIDE ACP COMMITTEE OF AMBASSADORS IN BRUSSELS GENERAL GUIDANCE ON SUBSTANTIVE THEMES FOR FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS WITH EC.) ALSO, THE MINISTERS WILL CONSIDER THE ROLE OF ACP COUNTRIES IN FURTHERING COORDINATION AMONG G-77 IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL FORA, SUCH AS UNGA, UNCTAD, ETC. MORRIS

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